

1.6 (Unfamiliar Texts) - Your Approach

To Achieve:

- show understanding of texts
- identify ideas and language features used

To Achieve with Merit and Excellence

- identify and explain ideas and language features (Merit)
- identify, explain and appreciate ideas / style / language features (Excellence)

Steps to Achieving this standard – Home Study

1. KNOW YOUR TERMINOLOGY!
Be able to identify what a simile, metaphor etc is and be able to identify them when they appear in a text.
2. KNOW WHY THESE TECHNIQUES ARE COMMONLY USED
Memorise the glossary sheets you have been given
Test yourself by putting these terms on cue cards, with the effect written on the back
3. LOOK at the text. Who is writing / presenting it? In what situation? Try to refer to this in your answer
4. What are we supposed to think or understand after reading the text (Ideas)?
5. Why was this written (Purpose)? How do they want us to feel or react?
6. Identify language features. Why have they been used in this particular place in the text? Do they add extra meaning (emotive words)? Do they add to the tone (angry, warning, sad)?
Do they appeal to a particular audience?
7. Are there any links to texts we might know (e.g: Three Little Pigs?)

In the Exam

1. Read the extracts and questions carefully – make sure you understand exactly what the question is asking you. For example, if it asks you for a verbal language feature, do NOT say 'contrast' – this is a visual feature!
2. Use all the information you are given – use the line numbers to make sure you are looking at the part you are asked
3. Quote examples from the text (in quotation marks) to back up your answer – don't make up your own quotes
4. If you are not giving a quote. try to explain things in your own words rather than repeating the same lines from the text as part of your explanation
5. ATTEMPT ALL PARTS OF THE PAPER EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT SURE!!